

REMARKS

Applicants acknowledge receipt of the Final Office Action dated August 7, 2003. In that Action, the Examiner: 1) objected to claim 13 for a lack of antecedent basis; 2) rejected claims 1, 8-9, 11, 15-16, 18, and 23 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Hoyle et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 5,036,945) in view of *Blake* (U.S. Patent 3,770,232); 4) rejected claims 4, 10, 20-21, and 24 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Hoyle et al.* and *Blake* in view of *Shah et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,137,747); 5) rejected claims 5-6, 14, and 22 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Hoyle et al.* and *Blake* in view of *Beresford et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,145,615); 6) rejected claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Hoyle et al.* and *Blake* in view of *Wignall et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 4,872,526); 7) objected to claim 19 as being dependent on a rejected base claim; and 8) allowed claims 2-3, 12-13, 17, and 25-26.

The Applicants present a proposed amendment to claim 19 in order to place the claim in condition for allowance. An amendment has also been presented for Claim 13 to place the claim in condition for allowance. Concurrently with this paper, Applicants submit a Notice of Appeal. The Examiner is requested to enter the proposed claim amendments for purposes of appeal.

If the Examiner has any questions or comments regarding this communication, he is invited to contact the undersigned to expedite the resolution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,



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